

determining whether an indication is made in the update record; and  
including in the search output the records responsive to the query except one or more of  
the database records which correspond to the update record when the indication is made in the  
update record.

*B1*  
2. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein if the indication is a delete  
indicator, the update record is also excluded from the search output.

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5. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying one or more  
update databases associated with the at least one database.

*B2*  
6. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
maintaining a search-routing database;  
receiving the query from a user, said query comprised of search request data in a plurality  
of search request fields of predetermined types;  
selecting the search request data in at least one of the search request fields;  
searching said search-routing database for at least one database identifier, based on the  
selected search request data; and  
routing the query to the at least one database identified by said at least one database  
identifier and the update database associated therewith.

7. (Twice Amended) A system for providing a search output responsive to a query,  
comprising:  
a plurality of databases, said databases including database records having database fields;  
one or more update databases, said update databases including update records having  
update database fields;  
a search engine for searching one or more of the plurality of databases for database  
records responsive to the query, returning the database records responsive to the query, searching

at least one of the update databases associated with the plurality of databases for an update record responsive to the query, returning the update record responsive to the query, and determining whether an indication is made in an update database field of the update record; and

*B2*  
a sorter for generating the responsive records resulting from the search of the databases and the at least one update database, and including in the search output the records responsive to the query except one or more of the database records which correspond to the update record when the indication is made in the update database field of the update record.

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8. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 7, wherein if the indication is a delete indicator, the update record is also excluded from the search output.

*B3*  
10. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 7, further comprising:

a search-routing database;

an input device for receiving the query from a user, the query comprised of search request data in search request fields of predetermined types; and

a search router for receiving the query and selecting search request data in at least one of the search request fields;

wherein the search engine is configured for searching said search-routing database for one or more database identifiers, said one or more database identifiers identifying the one or more of the plurality of databases.

11. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 10, further comprising a table for identifying the at least one update database associated with the one or more of the plurality of databases.

12. (Twice Amended) A method of routing search requests, comprising:

receiving a search request at a receiving server, the receiving server having one or more databases accessible for searching;

searching a routing database to determine whether the search request should be routed to the one or more databases accessible by the receiving server; and

*B3* if it is determined that the search request should be routed to the one or more databases accessible to the receiving server:

routing the search request to the one or more databases accessible by the receiving server;  
searching the one or more databases accessible to the receiving server; and  
returning the results of the search.

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**Cancel** claims 4 and 9.